



**Professional Development & Career Advancement  
Program for Undergraduate Women Studying  
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)**



**"No country can get ahead if it leaves half of its people behind.  
This is why the United States believes gender equality is critical to our  
shared goals of prosperity, stability, and peace, and why investing in women  
and girls worldwide is critical to advancing U.S. foreign policy."**

**– Secretary of State John Kerry**

**Purpose:**

The NeXt Scholars Program offers young women pursuing undergraduate education in STEM fields at U.S. women's colleges the opportunity for career advancement via professional development, workshops, leadership, and mentoring support. ***We prepare the next generation of female global leaders to discover the next great idea and solve the next big challenge.***

**Background:**

- The NeXt Scholars Program was launched in December 2011 by then-Secretary of State Clinton (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2012/01/180291.htm>).
- The Program enrolls young women from the United States and from countries with Muslim-majority populations who are interested in pursuing STEM careers.
- The double X in the Program's title symbolizes the X chromosomes of women.
- The inaugural class of NeXt Scholars started their undergraduate degrees in the Fall of 2012 (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2012/10/199153.htm>).
- In its second year during 2013, the number of new NeXt Scholars in the Program has more than doubled (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2013/218379.htm>).

**Benefits:**

- 5-year membership to the New York Academy of Sciences with access to networks and events (<http://www.nyas.org/WhatWeDo/ScienceEd/NeXtScholars.aspx>).
- Matching to a successful female STEM mentor for one-on-one career support.
- Each International NeXt Scholar is paired with an American NeXt Scholar from the same college for exploring the Program together.
- Opportunities for professional development, live and virtual seminars, internship training, and research so the young women can acquire the skills and confidence needed to become future leaders, problem-solvers, and innovators worldwide.

**Details:**

- For additional information, contact us at [nextscholars@state.gov](mailto:nextscholars@state.gov).
- The NeXt Scholars Program guide and other materials are available at <http://www.state.gov/e/stas/nexxt>.



**Focus Countries  
and Regions:**

Afghanistan  
Albania  
Algeria  
Azerbaijan  
Bahrain  
Bangladesh  
Brunei  
Burkina Faso  
Chad  
Comoros  
Djibouti  
Egypt  
Gambia  
Guinea  
Indonesia  
Iran  
Iraq  
Jordan  
Kosovo  
Kuwait  
Kyrgyzstan  
Lebanon  
Libya  
Malaysia  
Maldives  
Mali  
Mauritania  
Morocco  
Niger  
Nigeria  
Oman  
Pakistan  
Palestinian Territories  
(Gaza & West Bank)  
Qatar  
Saudi Arabia  
Senegal  
Sierra Leone  
Somalia  
Sudan  
Syria  
Tajikistan  
Tunisia  
Turkey  
Turkmenistan  
United Arab Emirates  
Uzbekistan  
Yemen

***Participating Women's Colleges:***

- |                             |                                |                           |                            |                              |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Agnes Scott College       | • College of Saint Elizabeth   | • Hollins University      | • Saint Mary's College     | • Ursuline College           |
| • Barnard College           | • College of Saint Mary        | • Mary Baldwin College    | • Salem College            | • University of Saint Joseph |
| • Bay Path College          | • Colorado Women's College at  | • Meredith College        | • Scripps College          | • Wellesley College          |
| • Bennett College for Women | the University of Denver       | • Mills College           | • Simmons College          | • Wesleyan College           |
| • Bryn Mawr College         | • Columbia College             | • Mount Holyoke College   | • Smith College            | • Wilson College             |
| • Carlow University         | • Converse College             | • Notre Dame of Maryland  | • Spelman College          | (Co-ed since 2013)           |
| • Cedar Crest College       | • Cottey College               | University                | • St. Catherine University | • The Women's College at     |
| • Chatham University        | • Douglass Residential College | • Saint Mary-of-the-Woods | • Stephens College         | Brenau University            |
| • College of Saint Benedict | at Rutgers University          | College                   | • Sweet Briar College      | (Updated on 12-23-13)        |